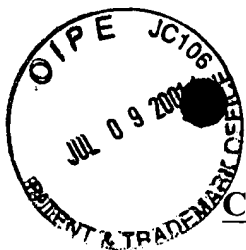


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Clean Version of Pending Claim 2

2. (Twice Amended) An isolated mammalian VEGF-D protein encoded by an isolated nucleic acid hybridizing under highly stringent conditions to the complement of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said nucleic acid has about 90% or higher sequence homology with the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, and said highly stringent conditions involve gradient hybridization from a temperature of about 68°C to about 55°C for about 2 hours and washing with 2 x SSC solution at room temperature, and wherein said protein has a biological activity of a VEGF family protein.